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7 February 1957

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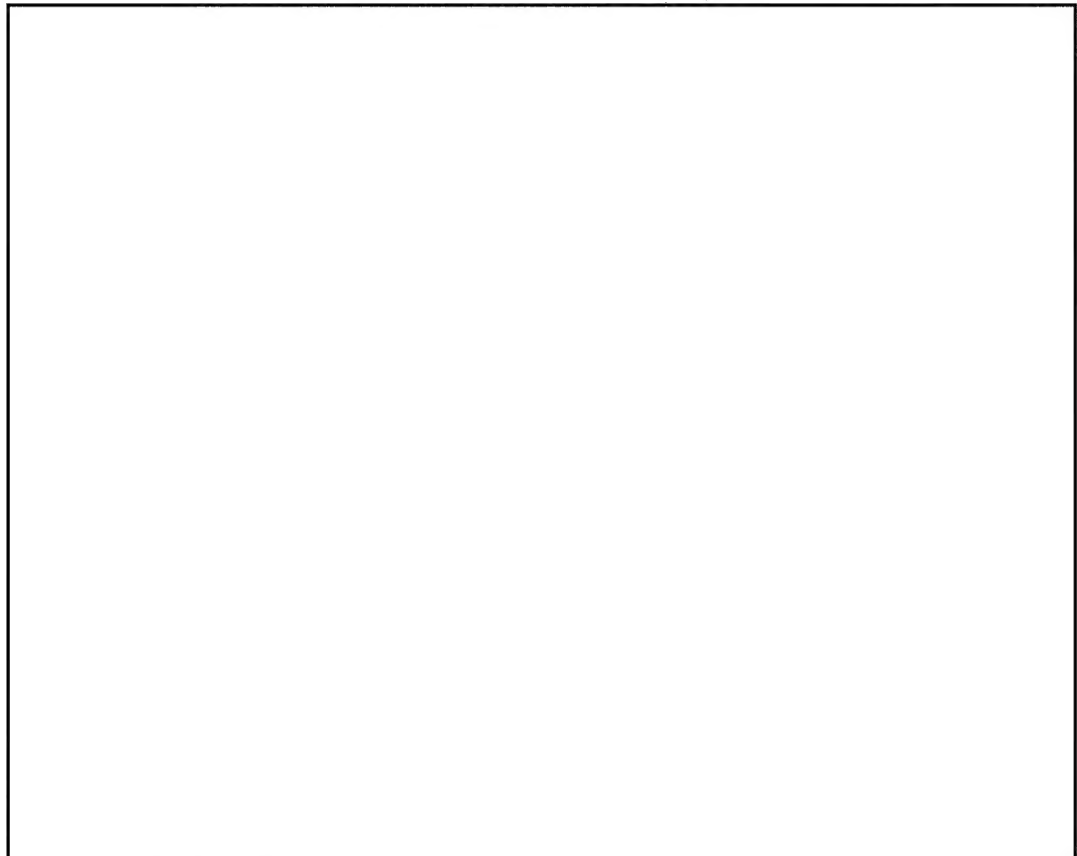
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OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE
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DIA and DOS
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CONTENTS



25X1

- CID* 3. SOVIET EFFORTS TO UNDERCUT GOMULKA [REDACTED]
(page 5).

25X1A

- CID* 4. BONN CONSIDERING CLOSER RELATIONS WITH POLAND
AND OTHER SATELLITES [REDACTED]

25X1A

25X1A

- CID* 5. INDIA PURCHASES 68 BRITISH JET LIGHT AIRCRAFT
[REDACTED]

- CID* 6. CENTRAL SUMATRA THREATENS MORE DRASTIC ACTION
AGAINST DJAKARTA [REDACTED]

25X1A

25X1

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Next 1 Page(s) In Document Exempt

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25X1A

3. SOVIET EFFORTS TO UNDERCUT GOMULKA

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The Soviet embassy in Warsaw is interfering in Polish internal affairs in order to undermine the position of First Secretary Gomulka, and Gomulka is convinced

that he must inflict a final defeat on the Stalinists and purge them from the party administration,

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the embassy was reported to be concentrating on strengthening Stalinist elements in local party organizations. numerous Stalinists had been elected as delegates to the forthcoming Warsaw party conference, and Gomulka ordered investigations to determine if these elections were fraudulent. These elections threaten the position of Stefan Staszewski, Warsaw first secretary who was one of Gomulka's most prominent supporters during the October revolution. The Soviet embassy is giving support to Stanislaw Pawlak, a secretary of the Warsaw provincial party organization.

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Local Economy Minister Mijal's recent public attack against Gomulka's agricultural policies was made at the instance of the Soviet ambassador. The embassy is also trying to prevent the official recognition of several youth organizations representing various points of view as a replacement for the Polish Communist youth organization.

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4. BONN CONSIDERING CLOSER RELATIONS WITH POLAND AND OTHER SATELLITES

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The head of the political division of the West German Foreign Ministry told American representatives on 4 February that the government is actively considering ways and means of reorienting Polish trade toward the West and increasing German-Polish cultural and technical contacts.

On the same day, a Foreign Ministry spokesman told the press that Bonn was thinking of establishing trade missions in the Satellites generally.

Comment

Bonn is apparently planning a cautious improvement in relations with the countries of Eastern Europe. This is the first official statement that trade missions are contemplated. Chancellor Adenauer, however, told journalists in Berlin on 2 February that West Germany was not contemplating a long-term loan to Poland.

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5. INDIA PURCHASES 68 BRITISH JET LIGHT AIRCRAFT

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New Delhi has announced its signature of a contract to purchase 68 Canberra jet light aircraft from Britain, according to the American air attaché in New Delhi. A press report from London states that the order calls for 54 bombers, six trainers, and eight photographic reconnaissance aircraft.

The air attaché in New Delhi notes that the timing of India's decision may have been influenced by the UN resolution on Kashmir.

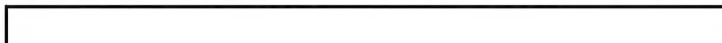
Comment

India has been negotiating with Britain' for over a year over the purchase of Canberras. Although technical considerations were a factor which held up the signing of the contract, the chief cause of the delay apparently was indecision as to whether or not to accept a Soviet offer to provide IL-28 jet light bombers,



25X1

The government's decision reflects its unwillingness to become dependent on Soviet sources of supply for important types of military equipment despite the difference in cost.



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6. CENTRAL SUMATRA THREATENS MORE DRASTIC ACTION AGAINST DJAKARTA

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The resignation of Indonesian prime minister Ali was demanded at a mass rally in Padang, Central Sumatra, on 5 February. A resolution calling for the resumption by former vice presi-

dent Hatta of joint responsibility with President Sukarno was passed. The resolution called on the Central Sumatra ruling council to "take more radical action" in the event that Ali refuses to resign.

The renewal of Sumatran demands, coupled with threats to break with Djakarta, probably results from the failure of the recent conference of Sumatran army officers with the chief of staff to solve Sumatran military and political problems. The Nahdlatul Ulama, the Moslem party which is the key to the cabinet's survival and which has followed a vacillating course in response to events in Sumatra, may again decide to desert Ali, and thus bring about the fall of the cabinet.

Meanwhile, dissident military authorities in South Sumatra have banned strikes following reports that the Communist labor federation planned to promote labor unrest in protest against the arrest of several Sumatran Communist leaders.

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